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STATE OF DELAWARE
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DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES:	BOARD OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS – LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING DATE AND TIME:	Monday, April 15, 2013 at 12:00 p.m.
PLACE:	861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware Conference Room A , second floor of the Cannon Building
MINUTES APPROVED:	05/20/2013

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rochelle Mason, Professional Member, Presiding
Sandra Bisgood, Public Member
Amy Bonner, Office of Management and Budget
Mark Farley, DSCYF
Kerry Ferriter, Office of the Public Defender
Ray Fitzgerald, Department of Health and Social Services (10:55 a.m. – 11:47 a.m.)
Dr. Fran Franklin, Professional Member (10:36 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.)
Amber Hall, Office of Management and Budget
Dr. Marlene Saunders, Delaware State University
John Shuford, NASW

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

Patricia Davis-Oliva, Deputy Attorney General
Jessica Williams, Administrative Specialist II

MEMBERS ABSENT

Pat Bailey, AFSCME Council 81
Yen-Anh Gibson, Public Member
Ron Hosterman, Department of Correction
Vicky Kelly, Division of Family Services
Florienda Scott-Cobb, Professional Member
Kyla Teed, Public Member
Philip Thompson, Professional Member

ALSO PRESENT

Lisa Allison, Office of Management and Budget
Jennifer Biddle, Office of Management and Budget
Zaira Davis, NASW
Wanda Pfieffer, Office of Management and Budget

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Mason called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Legislative Committee reviewed the February 4, 2013, minutes for approval. Dr. Franklin moved, seconded by Ms. Bonner, to approve the minutes as written. Motion unanimously carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Continued Discussion Regarding Proposed Statutory Revisions

Ms. Bonner advised the Committee that follow up correspondence was sent from the Child Death, Near Death and Stillbirth Commission. The Legislative Committee members reviewed the correspondence.

Ms. Bonner stated that there are three issues before the Committee, title protection, practice protection and the exemption of state employees. She reported that there are approximately 500-600 state employees that currently hold the term social worker in their job title and it is fairly easy to change job titles. Ms. Bonner committed that title changes will be done by the end of the calendar year state employees; this will include both merit employees and seasonal employees.

Mr. Shuford suggested eliminating the some language in the proposed draft to make the proposal title protection only. He also suggested that the Board should address practice protection at another time in the future. Mr. Shuford complimented the State for their willingness and participation on the Legislative Committee.

Ms. Bonner advised the Legislative Committee that approximately 45 state job classifications could be potentially impacted by having a practice act and not an exemption for state employees. Ms. Bonner proposed that if the Board goes forth with the practice act and removal of the state exemption, it should be done in a methodical way. She believes the proposed changes will have a financial impact on the State. Ms. Bonner suggested that the job requirements for employees be reviewed and changes would need to be made through attrition.

Mr. Shuford advised the Legislative Committee that at least one jurisdiction offers to pay for an employee's education, but the employee would work for the jurisdiction to repay the educational expenses.

Dr. Saunders stated that Delaware State University previously received Title 4E funding, and previously Child Protection Service workers received their degree from Delaware State University due to the available funding at the time. The Legislative Committee discussed possible programs and available financial assistance for state employees attempting to obtain their graduate degrees. Career development and professional trainings were discussed by the Legislative Committee.

Mr. Ferguson suggested that the Legislative Committee review the trending issues in order to implement the best process.

Ms. Bonner inquired as to how the State can build a system with multi-level licensure. A brief discussion took place regarding limited exemptions. The Legislative Committee discussed the proposed practice act and grandfathering and/or long term exemptions for State employees.

Mr. Fitzgerald suggested that a MOU be developed, which would define the State's commitments.

Ms. Williams advised the Legislative Committee that Minnesota successfully removed the state exemption from their statute. She will provide additional documentation from Minnesota during the next meeting.

Mr. Ferguson suggested that the Board make a motivational statement about the proposal regarding the protection of the public.

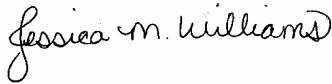
NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on May 20, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. in Conference Room A.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mason moved, seconded by Ms. Bisgood, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica M. Williams".

Jessica M. Williams, Administrative Specialist II
Delaware Board of Clinical Social Work Examiners